

Realists Form Community with all People

The Church of Reality doesn't have its own physical churches. We started out as an Internet-based religion and we are primarily web-based. There is, however, another religion called the {In:nw:<http://www.uua.org> 'Unitarian Universalist} that does have churches and have a set of values that are very compatible with our values. The Unitarians have been around for hundreds of years and the cornerstone of their religion is community. Unitarians are so committed to community that they have chosen not to have their own doctrine so that they can be as welcoming as possible to people of other beliefs, and to bring all people together into a single community.

Unitarians and Realists differ in that Realists put reality first and are interested in community. Unitarians put community first and are interested in reality. A physical church is a place where people meet to form a community. The Church of Reality has the {In:Principle of Inclusiveness} and one of our missions is to spread our message of reality to the real world. Since Unitarians put community first, it is logical to assume that they will probably be better at community than we are.

Realists and Unitarian Universalists share a lot of the same important values. We have the same moral code and our passions about society are almost identical.

The Unitarians have a guide {In:nw:<http://www.uunashua.org/100q/100questions.pdf> '100 Questions that Non-Members Ask About}, and we can find nothing in their religion that would in any way compromise our values as Realists. Universalists include members of a lot of religions. Christians, Jews, Buddhists, and Atheists are all welcome, and they agree to respect each other and to work together and exchange ideas. This allows Realists not only to share our views of reality with other people who are interested in reality, but also to learn about people who come from different backgrounds and have opinions that differ from ours. If we had our own churches, we probably wouldn't be as accepting of other people as Unitarians are, and would end up with a far less diverse community. Realists thrive best in a community of intellectual diversity, and if Unitarians can provide better diversity than we can ourselves, then it is reasonable to join with them in their community.

The Unitarian Universalist religion has been around for over 400 years. The Church of Reality is brand new. We have a lot to learn about community and it is an opportunity to learn what they have spent centuries perfecting. We also have the {In:Principle of Humility} that helps keep us in our place and keeps us from developing a false sense of self-importance. We believe that sharing a community with people of other religions who share our values will help keep us in line, and if we get off track, they will help keep us real. Someone to call us on our {In:Bullshit}.

The name Church of Reality is made up of two words. The word "Church" represents the human element and the word "Reality" is the scientific element. The Church of Reality is the union of humanity with science. It is far too easy to indulge in the science and forget the humanity. Left on our own, we might forget who we are as people and focus on the technology. It is good for us to form community with people who put community first and can help us stay focused on the fact that our religion is not just about reality, but also about people. So we are just going to have to put up with being around where some people worship deities in order to maintain our human perspective. Unitarian Atheists seem quite happy there, so there's no reason we can't thrive there as well.

Unitarian Universalist Principles include:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;

- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

We, as Realists, share these values. Unitarians aren't exactly like us. But they are close enough. And keep in mind that this is just for those Realists who want to go to a church. Going to church is not in any way required of Realists.